VISITS

HE DESCRIBES IT AS A LEADING INDUS-TRY AND TELLS OF THE INMATES.

Short of His Mark-At the Scene of the Great Dalton Fight, With a Graphic Description of It.

[Copyright, 1894, by Edgar W. Nye.] IN THE SOUTHWEST

IN THE SPRING OF THE YEAR. The jail at Fort Smith, Ark., is one of the leading industries here. I visited it, for it is the only concern I know of that has not felt the depression in business this year.

"Is the warden here?" I inquired of a stocky, good natured man who was sitting by the door in the glorious spring

"No, sir. He is away."

"Well, who is in charge now?" "I am," he said, but did not ask me

Then I gave him my name and asked him if I could visit the institution.



AT THE JAIL.

"Yes," he said. "I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll swap shows with you." So I gave him a pass for the evening, and we started in to visit the prison, which is a big, rectangular building, knoll overlooking the city.

Some of the prisoners are Indians, but they are not of the Ramona stripe. They are more of the Cherokee strip. People who read "Ramona" do not expeet to find an Indian in jail unless the court has erred in its judgment. I was pained to hear that some of these red brothers were charged with stealing. Some of them are even charged with murder. This striving little jail has over some of them not yet 21 years old.

Starr, the outlaw and murderer, is and is not a bad looking chap excepting that he has remarkably piercing cheek bones and a restless eye. He has killed more people even at 20 than many a successful physician 60 years of age.

His mother and sister came down on the train with us the evening before. The former is a gentle eyed, middle aged, dark woman of quiet demeanor, but evidently did not understand how to successfully bring up a boy. In a few marks on the gallows.

I visited the gallows where over 90 account of weather, for they have never where they were. disappointed an audience since the construction of the building. The trap has a capacity of eight men. I would think. At the back of the platform is a long This bank is marked B on the diagram. bench for the chairman and glee club. both sides, so that when the trigger is

the ninety-minth it happened to be a warm personal friend, so he resigned, and his ambition is still unfulfilled. He a railroad tie or log of the same weight, out out a rude head and neck on one end of it and rehearsed with this dummy and the new rope till he was sure that all was correct and ready. Then he did the job in a way that he never felt ashamed of.

"I don't ask you to take my word for it," he would say, with pride. "I just let my work show for itself."

These various wooden dummies stand yet in a corner by the scaffold, and the whole place has an air of steady, healthful, active business.

The jail now sends its long time convicts to Brooklyn, having filled up most of the other pens in the United States. Overproduction and long hauls seem to be the only danger to the vast volume of business done by this jail.

There were some ladies in the jail. I had never seen any lady convicts before. so went up stairs to see them. A lady felon who chews navy tobacco is a sad sight. I hope I may never see it again. I hate also to see a lady taking care of a little child that has been recently born

to her in cell 49. I would rather follow her to her grave than see a perfect lady trotting an anonymous baby inside the walls of a penilentiary. We spent the Sabbath in Coffeyville, the scene of the great Dalton fight, which occurred on the 5th day of October, 1502. Colonel Elliott of The Journal kindly piloted us around over the field of battle, and having been on the ground at the time knew every inch of it. He was in 14 pitched battles in



the war, but says this was the most say-

says that the morning of the 5th dawn-

Five solitary horsemen might have been seen going toward the town of Coffeyville. One of them used tobacco, but otherwise they were perfect gents. They were false whiskers, which showed The use of tobacco and false whiskers should not be encouraged.

about as the banks were opening, as Bob Dalton discovered on looking at a beautiful gold repeater, presented to him by a prominent citizen by request. They hitched their horses in an alley marked the "alley of death" in the diagram will soon close and rather than have herewith given. Here there are bullet your boy idle why not iet him study marks yet to show how hot was the conflict in that neighborhood, and an old stable there has been carried away for relies.

impossible to set it right again.

Three of the robbers entered Condon's bank to overdraw their account. Mr. Carpenter turned from his ledger to wait on these men, whose footsteps he heard, when he found a powerful indersement in the way of three winchesters, along with a sight draft for the amount on

Gratton Dalton made a profane re mark to Mr. Carpenter regarding the state of the country and the slack condition of trade. This convinced Mr. Carpenter and Mr. Ball, the eashier, that the men were not all they should be. These bank officers said very little, but held their ands higher than usual, Mr. Ball ripping one of his sleeves under the arm.

standing in the middle of a large, grassy he would see that no one disturbed them at all.

> no account whatever at Condon's bank and as a matter of fact had no claim on the bank.

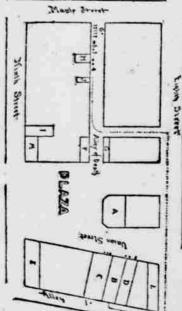
They got all there was in sight-some \$4,000-and they demanded what was in the vault, but Dalton was told that the time lock would not open till 9:30. It was really 20 minutes of 10 at that time, but Dalton was afraid to look at 20 murderers in it at this writing, his watch, as he had to keep his gun pointed that way or something might have happened to him, for the bank was one of them. He looks to be about 20 not at that time friendly with the Dal-

time lock opened, but soon he got in a hurry and made a coarse and profane re-

Meantime two customers came into the bank and concluded to remain there. By this time the citizens had discovered the character of the men and began to shoot into the bank from the hardware store marked C. The firing brought weeks this lad will be called home. It more armed men, and soon the robbers Is needless to say that he will go direct- were besieged in the bank and had to ly to paradise, where all the murderers retire to the back room, where they held go if we can rely upon their farewell re- a directors' meeting to discuss whether they should close the bank or resume business. They had left their bag in the men have passed on to their reward. It front room and did not dare go back aftis an inclosure with an elevated plat- er it, the firing was so hot, so they got form at one end, with a roof over it, so one of their prisoners to go out on his that there need be no postponement on hands and knees to bring it back to

Meantime the other two robbers had been more successful at the First National bank, and had secured \$20,000.

Finally the unhappy robbers in Con-At the front is the long trap hinged on don's bank got out and exchanged shots with the citizens, who were giving it to sprung the platform parts in the middle them redhot. Conceyville men, espeand the speaker drops through it with cially Mr. Isham, the hardware man, and Mr. Kloehr, a livery stable man, The old executioner had an ambition are dead shots. One of the robbers was to hang 100 men, but when he struck wounded in the arm so that he could not use his gun before he got out of the bank, and by the time the five got to the alley, where they met within 50 always weighed his man and then got yards of their horses, Mr. Isham was raking the entire length of the alley,



and Mr. Klochr, from the back of the building marked F, where there was a high board fence, was giving them a warm dose ever and anon.

In fact, Grat Dalton and Bill Powers had received mortal wounds before they got 20 steps from the bank. Every little while a bullet would knock a little puff of dust from the robbers' clothes, and by that the citizens knew that they had hit. Powers staggered to his horse, but as he put his foot in the stirrup a big ball took him in the back, and this noble brute fell under the feet of his

herse to rise no more. Dick Broadwell, who was with Grat Dalton in the Condon bank, was shot in the back, but crawled out of a lumber pile and got on his horse, when a bullet and a big load of buckshot, door hinges and his wife endeavored to console him, and scrap iron overtook him, and bleed. "Have patience, Charles. Murmuring he rode away out of town, where, ing and fretting will do no good. Rea short distance off, his body was found member Job—he had patience."

ing marked J. It is the city jail and is seen Tribune

age and murderous work he ever saw, though it occupied but 12 minutes. Colonel Elliott in his printed account

ed bright and beautiful.

that they did not wish to be recognized. leads to an ignominious death and

These men rode into the town just

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about one size larger than a common cocking steve. Here, while looking up

toward the windows of surrounding

buildings, from which he seemed to

think the bullets were coming, a shot

or two from Isham's store knocked him

over, and he crawled away to a pile of

curbatones. He rose, however, and made a last effort to shoot Klochr, but

missed and Kloehr returned the fire,

striking Bob in the breast, and he fell

without a groan. Grat Dalton, after

shooting the city marshal, tried to get

away, but Mr. Kloehr gave him his

death shot, the ball entering the center of the throat and breaking the neck.

The result of this 12 short minutes of

fighting was the utter destruction of

four out of the five, Emmett Dalton be-

ing now in the penitentiary for life and

pretty well shot to pieces besides. He

might have escaped with all the money

if he had chosen, but returning to get

shot as he stooped over, and to escape

Dead men and dollar bills were sest-

tered over the alley, and several of the

horses had been killed also. It was one

of the best things for the country that

frame of Isham's store just missed a 50

pound can of dynamite inside the win-

The First National bank had \$1.98

after the robbers had gone, but it is still

go there to overdraw their accounts on

the Dalton plan will be rudely ejected

Wherever one goes in Coffeyville he

finds a winchester behind the door or

town to go through the Indian Terri-

tory, and feeling something cold I rose

and found that it was the steel barrel of

When I was younger, I did not fear anything. I killed quite a large number

of men on the frontier, for which I am

now beartily sorry. I wish that I could

replace them. But I could not very well

do it, so I could only pray for them and

I have gone over the Dalton story be-cause the whole battle was so graphical-

ly described to me by Colonel Elliott,

and it is so fresh in my memory, that I

felt sure the reader would like to know

fully the particulars of the most suc-

cessful fight ever made by civilians against a desperate band of robbers and

murderers. I also thought it would be

a lesson to the young who may have

Be sure, boys, that no desperate man

lasts about three years in this climate,

according to statistics, and even during

Think of Emmett Dalton! In 12 min-

that time he sleeps very poorly of nights

utes after he entered the town of Coffey-

ville he lay, torn and shattered with

buckshot, in the alley, where near him

lay his dead brothers, with their warm

blood drenching the false beards and the

money they had died to win. Eight dead

and three wounded lay within a few

yards. I said to Colonel Elliott, and I

say here now, that Emmett Dalton ought

Job's Advantage.

his face bandaged, groaning horribly,

Mr. Drywinter sat by the stove, with

"Have patience, Charles. Murmur-

"Yes, but he never had his teeth ex-

to be ashamed of himself.

That is really no way to live.

try to do better in the future.

obtaining a livelihood.

his brother on his horse's back he wa

was then impossible.

of four good citizens.

& Construction Co.

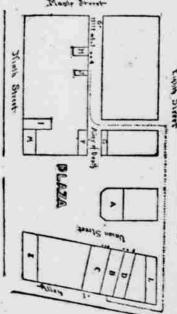
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Condon's bank, marked exhibit A, The coming profession. We are never faces the plaza. A plaza is a place where Alliance people hitch their teams and where greasers sell hot tamales made of boiled breast of buzzard inside a cornshuck. The plaza by day has a fringe of demoralized teams around it, each team consisting of one horse and one mula. It is safe to say that in the southwest fully two-thirds of the teams are thus arranged. Why it is I do not know unless it started that way by accident, and when the set was broken it made it

Mr. Dalton then took from his person two bushel grain sack and asked the bank to put its money in there. He said

I forgot to say that Mr. Dalton had

Dalton said he could wait till the



Bob Dalton reached the little build- tracted by the painless process."--Chi- Stock. Factor Wighta, Kan

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